

74-2569

DD/M&S Registry
File Records

10 JUL 1974

Lt. Col. Guy Richards, USMCR (Ret.)
340 East 57th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Colonel Richards:

I am pleased to advise you that the authorities responsible for classification status of the documents mentioned in my letter of 25 June 1974 have informed this Agency of declassification action in both cases.

Our normal practice would be to hold the documents for you until receipt of payment for search and copying fees, the former calculated at \$6.00 per hour or fraction thereof, and the latter at 10¢ per page. However, in the interests of expediting the process, we are enclosing the two documents herewith and ask that you kindly remit a check or money order payable to the Treasurer of the United States in the amount of \$7.70.

The Chief Special Agent files, concerning which you re-queried us on 28 June, are not part of the records holdings of this Agency, and we doubt that there would have been any interest in making them such due to preoccupations with current intelligence matters. Historical interest in the files would presumably rest with the Department of State as originator and the National Archives as repository. The two documents on found in our files relate to an abortive interest shown by for employment by the Central Intelligence Group in 1947.

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We do not have a CIA history and archives section as such, but it is possible for qualified researchers to gain some limited access to Agency records. Such privileged access is granted only to recognized scholarly researchers with a responsible publications record, and involves (a) the submission of detailed biographic data, a well-defined research prospectus, and a signed secrecy agreement; (b) the conduct of a security investigation; (c) the issuance of security

clearances as required for reading the pertinent materials; (d) the submission of all notes for review; and (e) Agency approval prior to publication of manuscript.

We wish you well in your interesting research area.

Sincerely,

/s/ Angus MacLean Thuerner

Angus MacLean Thuerner
Assistant to the Director

Enclosures:

STAT

[redacted] cl (7 pp.)
24 Apr 23,
w/encl (10 pp.)

STAT

ISAS/CPB [redacted] ydc (3 July 1974)

Distribution:

Original - Addressee (w/Encl)

1 - Executive Registry

1 - Asst to DCI

1 - DDM&S

1 - OLC (w/Encl)

1 - OS/SSD/EAB [redacted]

1 - DDO/ISG [redacted] w/Encl)

1 - ISAS Subject (w/Encl)

STAT

AT

STATINTL

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP84-00780R006100080008-1

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP84-00780R006100080008-1

74-2344
[Signature]
Records

25 JUN 1974

Lt. Col. Guy Richards, USMCR (Ret.)
340 East 57th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Colonel Richards:

Be assured that your letter of 28 May 1974 was received and the congratulatory comments on Mr. Colby's appointment are appreciated.

STAT Acting on your request for information that might be found in files formerly with the Department of State, we contacted Mr. Bannerman in retirement. He responded with a lack of knowledge regarding the men, the files and the missions. However, we have otherwise located two documents bearing on the activities of [redacted] during the period of your interest, and have sent these to the originating agencies for declassification review. In addition, we found that Newton A. McCully is mentioned in James Robert Green's M. A. thesis on "The First Sixty Years of The Office of Naval Intelligence," done in 1963 and available through University Microfilms, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

We shall be back in touch with you when declassification decisions have been reached on the above documents, or if other relevant material should come to light.

Sincerely,

7s7 Angus MacLean Thuermer

Distribution:

Orig - Adse

- 1 - ER (w/basic)
- 1 - DDMRS (w/ cy basic)
- 1 - OLC (w/cy basic)
- 1 - OS/SSD/EAS [redacted] (w/cy basic)
- 1 - ISAS (w/cy basic)
- 1 - Asst to DCI (w/cy basic)

ISAS:CPB:DGv:slh(10 June 1974)

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP84-00780R006100080008-1

Angus MacLean Thuermer
Assistant to the Director

STAT

GUY RICHARDS
340 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

DD/M&S 74-1977

May 28, 1974

William E. Colby, Director,
Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Colby:

My belated congratulations to you on your elevation to the high command of the CIA. It is always a pleasure to note when the search for a good leader covers the countryside from Point Barrow to Key West and runs unavailing through the list of big names in other fields -- and finally returns home to choose the man best qualified in the eyes of his peers, the guy who was in the outfit all along, through fair weather and foul.

I know your colleagues are happy about it.

I am appealing to you for help in the matter of research on very old files that I have been told the CIA took over from the State Department in the late 1940's.

To be more specific, I am the author of several books rooted to the World War I era. The most recent was "The Hunt for the Czar" (Doubleday). I have just about finished another which deals among other things with U.S. special agents in Europe and Russia between 1914 and 1930.

Four of these agents interest me particularly and I have already amassed a good deal of material about them. Three were Naval officers affiliated with the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) as well as with, at various times, the State Department's own CIA of those days, the office of Chief Special Agent. All three officers received high U.S. and Russian decorations. All are deceased. They were:

Newton A. McCully (who became a vice admiral); Commander [redacted] and Commander Hugo William Koehler.

Commander Koehler, who had a fabulous career, was a stepfather of the incumbent Senator from Rhode Island, Claiborne Pell. Senator Pell especially cherishes the memory of Com. Koehler and has spent a number of years trying to exhume all the facts about him both here and abroad. That's how my path crossed with the Senator's. He is, as you know, not only a member of the Foreign Relations Committee but chairs several subcommittees which deal with history, document declassification, archives and the Library of Congress.

GUY RICHARDS
340 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

There is a fourth man involved, a civilian lawyer from Chicago, who was sent to Poland in 1922-23 on a special mission for Secretary of State Charles Evans Hughes. He is described in rather mysterious detail by the well-known author Kenneth Roberts in a non-fiction book, really Roberts' own memoirs, "I Wanted to Write" (Doubleday 1949). The reference to Mr. Woods runs for several pages, starting on Page 156, in the middle of the page.

The State Department has informed Senator Pell and myself that there are no longer any security restrictions on matters pertaining to the World War I period and that such records it had are now in the National Archives. But a search of the Archives has revealed almost nothing about the special missions of those named above.

Then only the other day in Washington it was called to my attention that shortly after the creation of the CIA in 1947 Mr. [redacted] was brought over to the CIA from his post as Chief Special Agent at State and many of these old files on the missions of McCully, [redacted] Koehler, Woods, etc., were transferred to the CIA with him.

My questions, then, are these:

Does the CIA still have available those Chief Special Agent files from State?

If so, do they include those on the missions of McCully, [redacted] Koehler, Woods?

Could I see them?

Because of his personal relation to Commander Koehler and his admiration for him, Senator Pell seems to be as interested in the issue as I am -- the issue of finding the facts about what many of these anonymous and faceless agents did for their country. He has authorized me to enclose a copy of his letter to me on the subject whenever I address myself to Federal officials, active or retired. This letter is included herein.

My upcoming book covers the activities of these agents of a half century or so ago. With some difficulty, I have collected a good deal of new material on them from other sources some of which, I imagine, would be of interest to the CIA since much of it sharply contradicts recorded history. I would be glad to consult with any CIA representative about it.

Thanking you in advance for any help you can give us,

Very sincerely

Guy Richards

Lt. Col. U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Ret.

Enclosure — Letter from Sen. Claiborne Pell

CLAIBORNE PELL

325 Old Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
May 20, 1974

Mr. Guy Richards
340 East 57th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Richards:

I am very interested in your inquiry with regard to the fate of the Romanoff family at the time of the Russian Revolution.

I congratulate you on the excellent job you have done in pursuing your leads. I realize that you may face various difficulties because of the distance and time or other problems that might have elapsed since the events took place.

In such cases, I hope you will let me know as I would like to be of whatever help I can to you.

I believe that there should be no problem with regard to declassification of documents since I am informed that all State Department documents of this vintage have been long since declassified.

Good luck and be sure to let me know of whatever help I can be.

Ever sincerely,



Claiborne Pell

CONFIDENTIAL

DDM&S Registry
Records

19 June 1974

Officer in Charge
Department of the Navy
Declassification Team
Building 210
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D. C. 20734

Dear Mr. McKinney:

Independent researcher Guy Richards, Lt. Col. USMCR (Rtd),
has written to this Agency regarding the activities of [redacted]
[redacted] for possible inclusion in a book dealing with U. S.
special agents in Europe and Russia between 1914 and 1930. Inasmuch
as [redacted] name appears in paragraph 9 of the enclosed copy of a
report from the Commanding Officer of the U. S. S. Childs, the
report and its transmittal memorandum from the Acting Secretary of
the Navy to the Secretary of State are forwarded for your declassi-
fication review. If declassified, we would propose to release the
documents to Col. Richards. Please mark the documents as appro-
priate and return to this office.

Sincerely,

15/

[redacted]
Chief, Classification Programs Branch
Information Systems Analysis Staff

STAT

Enclosure: a/s (7 pages)

Distribution:

- Orig - Adse
- 1 - OS/EAB w/o encl
- 1 - OLC w/o encl
- 1 - ISAS w/o encl
- 1 - DDM&S w/o encl

ISAS:CPB:DGv:1am

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UNCLASSIFIED When Separated
From Enclosure

DD/M&S 74-2261

DD/M&S Registry
File Record

19 June 1974

Mr. Daniel Brown
Director, Freedom of Information Staff
Bureau of Public Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Brown:

Independent researcher Guy Richards, Lt. Col. USMCR (Rtd),
has written to this Agency regarding the activities of []
[] for possible inclusion in a book dealing with U. S.
special agents in Europe and Russia between 1914 and 1930. The
enclosed copy of a dispatch from [] to the Department with its
enclosures falls within this subject area and is forwarded for
your review. If declassified, we would propose to release the
documents to Col. Richards. Please mark the documents as appro-
priate and return to this office.

Sincerely,

IS/

[]
Chief, Classification Programs Branch
Information Systems Analysis Staff

Enclosures: a/s (18 pages)

Distribution:

- Orig - Adse
- 1 - OS/EAB w/o encl
- 1 - OLC w/o encl
- 1 - ISAS w/o encl
- 1 - DDM&S w/o encl

DD/M&S Registry
File Records

Chief, Information Systems
Analysis Staff
[redacted]

AT

Gail:

Ben Evans advised that the attached letter was returned, basically, because of two typographical errors--"Colonel" should be spelled out and "Rtd." is not the abbreviation for retired.

Aside from this, Ben suggests that we go out with a direct response, and provide the Executive Secretary (ER) with a drop copy of our letter. He is in the process of preparing something for all four Directorates in this area, because there is a need for an information copy, even when a particular office or staff takes the action.

I would suggest a new letter for the signature of the DD/M&S, possibly covering recent developments on Bob Bannerman, the sooner the better.

Suspense: 25 June 1974.

Atts: DD/M&S 74-2087, DD/M&S 74-1977

Executive Officer to the DD/M&S
[redacted]

20 Jun 74

STAT

EO-DD/M&S: [redacted] kmg (20 Jun 74)

Distribution:

- Orig RS - Adse w/Orig of Atts (*by hand*)
1 - DD/M&S Subject w/cy of Atts
1 - DD/M&S Chrono

STAT

DD/M&S 74-1977: Ltr dtd 3 Jun 74 to DCI fr Guy Richards re research on old files
DD/M&S 74-2087: Proposed ltr to Guy Richards fr DCI re same subj

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

STAT

FROM:

C/ISAS

NO.

STAT

DATE

10 June 1974

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

STAT

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. DDM&S
Attn: [redacted]

10 JUN 1974

1. For concurrence.

2. DCI
[redacted]

189u

2. For signature.

3. EXO/DDM&S

Lt. Col. (Rtd.) Richards is writing a book which includes material on the activities of U. S. special agents in Europe and Russia during the period 1914-1930. Richards believes that the files of four State Dept. agents were brought to the Agency by Mr. [redacted] upon his transfer to the CIA. He has requested access to the files if they prove to be in the Agency's custody.

8.

2-3:

9.

Pls give me a call.

10.

1-3) Ben Evans

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

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11-2087

Lt. Col. Guy Richards, USMCR. Rtd.
340 East 57th Street
New York, N. Y. 10022

Dear Col. Richards:

Be assured that your letter of 28 May 1974 was received and the congratulatory comments on my appointment are appreciated. A search for the information you seek has been instituted, and we shall be back in touch with you as soon as answers to your questions are available.

Sincerely,

W. E. Colby
Director

Originated by: SIGNED
C/ISAS

10 JUN 1974

Date

Concurrence: Deputy Director
for

11 JUN 1974

Date

ISAS:CPB:DGv:slh Management and Services
(10 June 1974)

Distribution:

Orig. - Addressee

1 - ER

1 - DDCI (w/basic)

1 - Exec. (w/cy basic)

1 - DDM&S

1 - OS/SSD/EA/RY (w/cy basic)

1 - ISAS

(w/cy basic)

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DD/M&S Registry
File Records

Chief, ISAS

Gail:

Would appreciate it if you assumed action responsibility for this, and coordinate with Office of Security and Office of Legislative Counsel, as appropriate. The DD/M&S was briefed on this, and the thought was expressed that we might refer Richards directly to for a definitive answer to some of the questions.

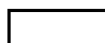
Suspense: Noon - 10 June 1974
cc: D/OS

/s/
LJD *frh*

STAT

AT

EO-DD/M&S



6/4/74

Attachment: M&S 74-1977, Ltr to DCI from Guy Richards re research on old files, dtd 3 June 1974

Distribution:

- Orig - C/ISAS w/att.
- 1 - D/OS w/att.
- 1 - M&S Subject w/att.
- 1 - M&S Chrono w/o att.
- 1 - LJD Chrono w/o att.

STAT DD/M&S/ h (4 June 1974)

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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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GUY RICHARDS
340 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

DD/MS 74-1977

May 28, 1974

William E. Colby, Director,
Central Intelligence Agency,
Washington, D.C. 20505

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GUY RICHARDS
340 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

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Very sincerely

Guy Richards

Lt. Col. U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Ret.

Enclosure -- Letter from Sen. Claiborne Pell

CLAIBORNE PELL

325 Old Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
May 20, 1974

Mr. Guy Richards
340 East 57th Street
New York, New York

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I believe that there should be no problem with regard to declassification of documents since I am informed that all State Department documents of this vintage have been long since declassified.

Good luck and be sure to let me know of whatever help I can be.

Ever sincerely,



Claiborne Pell